

In the Claims:

Cancel claims 1-6, 8-12 and 14-16;

Amend claims 7 and 13, and add new dependent claim 21, as follows:

1. (Cancelled)
2. (Cancelled)
3. (Cancelled)
4. (Cancelled)
5. (Cancelled)
6. (Cancelled)
7. (Currently Amended) The Surgical apparatus of claim 1 further comprising an elongated cannula further comprising:

a first lumen extending within the cannula between proximal and distal ends thereof for housing an endoscope therein;

a transparent tip disposed at the distal end of the first lumen for providing dissection and endoscopic visualization therethrough;

a second lumen having an open distal end positioned intermediate the proximal and distal ends of the first lumen for housing a surgical instrument therein to protrude from the open distal end for performing surgical procedures on tissue viewed through the transparent tip; and

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a flexible and resilient hood having an open distal end and an open proximal end that is coupled to the distal end of the second lumen for recurring operation and operable in a tapered transition orientation between distal and proximal ends thereof responsive to a surgical instrument being retracted within the second lumen proximally from the transparent tip, and in an expanded orientation in response to extension therethrough the distal end thereof of a surgical instrument projecting forward from the open distal end of the second lumen and through the open distal end of the hood.

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Cancelled)

112 13. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 1 7 wherein the ~~cannula~~ hood includes a tapered transition contour between distal and proximal ends thereof near the location ~~therealong~~ the cannula at which the first lumen extends beyond the open distal end of the second lumen to taper the sectional area of the cannula and reduce axial force required to advance the cannula through tissue.

14. (Cancelled)

15. (Cancelled)

16. (Cancelled)

17. (Withdrawn) A surgical procedure using a multi-lumen cannula including a first lumen extending there through between proximal and distal ends thereof and having a transparent tapered tip at the distal end of the first lumen for receiving an endoscope therein, and including a second lumen extending for receiving a surgical instrument therein, the procedure comprising:

advancing the cannula to dissect tissue with the transparent tapered tip

under endoscopic visualization through the transparent tip;

selectively extending the surgical instrument out of the second lumen

forward of the cannula; and

performing the surgical procedure using the surgical instrument under

endoscopic visualization through the transparent tapered tip.

18. (Withdrawn) The procedure of claim 17 wherein the surgical tool is surgical scissors, and performing the surgical procedure comprises transecting side branches of a saphenous vein.

19. (Withdrawn) The procedure of claim 18 further comprising the steps of:

removing the scissors from the second lumen of the cannula;

inserting a cradled retractor into the second lumen of the cannula;

extending the retractor from the second lumen forward of the cannula
to cradle the vein; and
advancing the retractor along the vein under endoscopic visualization
through the transparent tip to ensure that side branches of the
vein have been transected.

20. (Withdrawn) A method of harvesting veins using a multi-lumen cannula in
which a first lumen houses an endoscope and has a transparent tip and a second
lumen houses a surgical scissors comprising:

advancing the cannula along a vein under endoscopic visualization;
dissecting tissue responsive to advancing the cannula with the
transparent tip;
responsive to viewing a sidebranch requiring transection, extending
the surgical scissors out of the cannula; and
transecting the sidebranch.

¹¹² 21. (New) The apparatus of claim 7 in which the hood is eccentrically disposed
relative to an elongated axis of the cannula near the distal end thereof substantially
in alignment with the second lumen.